

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Dirk M. ANDERSON

Serial No.: -- to be assigned --

Previous Application:

Group Art Unit: 1646

Filed: March 16, 2004

Examiner: O'Hara, E.

For: KITS FOR DETECTING RANKL PROTEINS OR
NUCLEIC ACIDS

Docket No.: 2852-G

PRELIMINARY REMARKS

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

The specification submitted herewith is a continuation of parent application U.S.S.N. 09/865,363, but differs from this parent as follows:

1. The title of the application has been amended to more accurately reflect the invention described herein.
2. The paragraph describing priority has been amended.
3. Figure 2 has been deleted from the application. The specification has been amended accordingly to delete descriptions and all references to this figure. In addition, Figure 3 has been renumbered as "Figure 2" and the specification amended accordingly. The results that were illustrated in cancelled Figure 2 are described in Example 13 of the specification. The cancellation of this figure is believed not to impact the enablement or description of the claimed invention, and does not introduce new matter into the application.
4. Figures 4 and 5 and their corresponding descriptions have been deleted from the application. These figures were deleted because they are not discussed in the specification. Their deletion is believed to have no impact on the enablement or description of the claimed invention.
5. The original specification in several instances referred to amino acid sequences by referring to SEQ ID NOS:10 and 12, which listings show both nucleotide and amino acid

sequences. In such instances, these references have been changed to SEQ ID NOS:11 and 13, which show amino acid sequences only. These changes do not constitute the addition of new matter to the application.

6. In addition, a typographical error in the specification at page 36, line 1 has been corrected. Here, the text was changed to read "Table 2" instead of "Table 1." It is self-evident from the context that the applicant had intended to refer to Table 2, not Table 1. For example, the text at page 36, line 1 reads "Table 1 below," and the only table located "below" is Table 2. Thus, this change does not constitute the addition of new matter to the application.

7. The abstract has been amended to more accurately reflect the subject matter of the claims currently being sought.

8. The claims submitted herewith are different from those that were presented in the parent application.

None of the changes in this application are believed to constitute the addition of new matter.

If the examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this application, he or she is asked to contact the undersigned at her direct dial number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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